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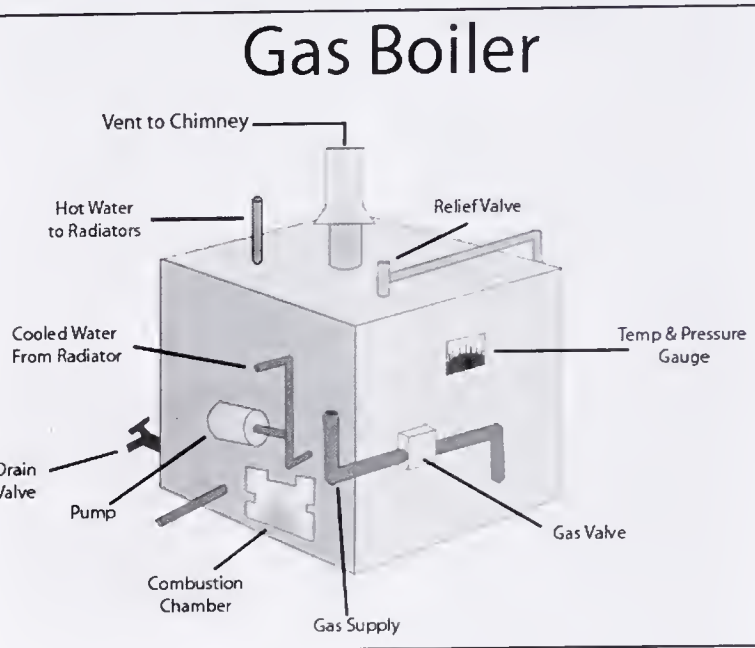
# Pumas Search for a Solution for the Pollution

By Maggie Hunter  
News Writer

Whether you have been keeping up with the emails or have noticed the construction going on outside, you may have figured out what Saint Joseph's College has been up to. Because our college is obligated to meet certain standards, the decision has been made to halt the use of coal-fired boilers and only employ the natural gas boilers, which will make us one of Rensselaer's largest gas customers.

Although Saint Joseph's College has to meet standards, this is not the only reason for this change. Instead of having the environmental dangers produced by coal-fired boilers, natural gas offers a cleaner resource. The change will result in an emission reduction of 99% in sulfur dioxide and 70% in nitrogen oxide. It will also result in the elimination of nearly 240 tons of ash.

Despite these positive environmental impacts, there is also one downside to this switch: Methane. Methane is a popular greenhouse gas and it also has a powerful impact on climate change; however, it fortunately is not toxic and, therefore, does not pose a threat to us. It is a chemical compound that can leak during



the use and production of natural gas boilers. With all of this in mind, there is not a high chance that this will happen if proper maintenance is employed. The workers at the boilers are well trained.

This switch is not immediate. As students and staff may have noticed, the large amount of construction going on around the Halleck Student Center is a step in this process. A lot of time is required for this project to go cleanly and smoothly. Time is

needed to provide reviews and services to some boilers while removing others. There is also the need for a new and larger gas line along the west side of Father Kenkel Road that will lead to the Powerhouse. Also, the shipment and maintenance of a new boiler should arrive sometime this month.

Patience must also be kept when issues arise when it comes to installation, shipment delays, or extreme weather conditions. An issue has already come up:

*Pictured to the left is a diagram of how a typical gas boiler works. Gas boilers emit Methane. However, it is still a cleaner option than the current coal-firing boilers that Saint Joseph's College is in the process of removing. Photo courtesy of Google Images*

the natural gas boiler required an equipment shut-down about a week ago. However, the workers were quick and the repairs were quick and painless with building systems fully restored before noon the next day. Even when worse comes to worse, a back-up unit will be available sometime this month to keep the lives of students and staff unaffected by the possible problems. It is safe to say that everyone on the campus will be taken care of.

Even though it may take a while, the change from coal-fired boilers to natural gas will be anything but negative. Helping the environment is just another reason Saint Joseph's College may be praised.

## SJC Senior Starts his Journey towards the "Big Screen"

By Natalie Dziadosz  
News Writer

Senior English major, Patrick Massoels, has recently submitted a script to the well-respected Sundance Film Festival. It is an original script written by Massoels about a kid at a college party who thinks he needs to get drunk to talk to a girl. It turns out that only his body is intoxicated. His mind is still sober and he has to come to terms with himself as he waits for the alcohol to leave

his system.

Massoels came up with the idea when he was making a video against abuse for the school. He already had the idea for the movie, but in filming the informational video, he started filming his own movie. The work on the script began around Christmas of his sophomore year.

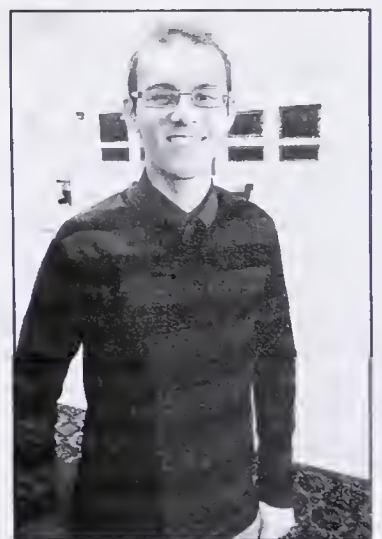
In writing this script, he decided that although it was nice to be able to make all of the creative decisions, the actual

script writing was not quite what he wanted to do. Massoels says, "I really want to become a producer. I still want some creative input, but I don't want to have to take all that time to write scripts." It's definitely understandable, considering it took around four months to get the movie competition ready.

Two years later, it is competition ready. All of the filming, buying the costumes, and everything else involved in the actual making of the movie has finally ended. The video editing, which took a considerable amount of time, has also been perfected. The only thing left to do is enter it into a contest.

The admission process into the Sundance Film Festival was not that extensive. It is really only a day's worth of work. They have a personal question and answer time, then you send in the admissions fee and finally the script is sent in. You can do this either by mail or electronically.

After the admissions process, the waiting begins. Massoels has to wait until the end of January to hear back about whether or not it has been accepted. He still plans to submit his movie to at



*Senior Patrick Massoels poses for a picture after discussing his first time venturing into professional film-making. Photo courtesy of Natalie Dziadosz*

least another half a dozen other competitions. He has hopes of showing his movie locally, if there is any interest. One day, Massoels hopes to get involved in movie production. Massoels already has a start to a rather promising career; Saint Joseph's College hopes to see great things from him.

*Pictured below is one of the 2015 Sundance Film Festival Logos. Sundance is an annual competition where many aspiring film makers get discovered. Photo courtesy of Google Images*





# Welcome to Farmville: Students get involved in CSA

By Casey Snow  
News Writer

St. Joseph's College provides its students with many opportunities to better their academic experience, become involved, practice in a field that will help with their future careers, and of course, have fun. Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) is one of those opportunities. Community Supported Agriculture is a business supported by the student farm and gives students the opportunity to grow and research in the HOOP house and the greenhouse, as well as play a major role in providing the community with fresh produce. Agriculture is a major part of many of the students here at Saint Joseph's College, and the student farm allows them to participate in that. As a part of this program, members of the community pay money and each week to choose from a list of available products that members of this club grow. The students of CSA then prepare and send out these orders. In addition to CSA, this summer produce was sold to places like Strack & Van Til

and the Farmer's Market, and any extra food was sent to the Good Samaritan Food Pantry. CSA takes place twice each year, in the fall and summer months. The Hoop house provides students with a place to grow this produce year round. Student interns are responsible for taking care of the garden and harvesting all the produce. As a part of CSA and the student farm, students also have the opportunity to work on research projects throughout their time at the Hoop house. This summer, many students conducted research on different topics. For example, seniors Aleksa Kojcinovic, a Bio-Chemistry Major, and Emily Baird, a Biology major, worked on researching grafted tomatoes, while senior Peter Conerty, a Biology major, researched pollinators, and seniors Watoris Slator, an Elementary Education major, and Alysha Alonzo, a Bio-Chemistry Major, researched compost. Hanna Kane, a Mass Communications major and the Business Manager of St. Joseph's CSA program, was introduced to the student farm

in the fall of 2011 through her Freshman Seminar class. She told the Observer, "I collect all the customer orders, harvest, clean, and package all the produce for our customers." She has been a part of CSA since the fall of 2013, but has been working in the garden since the spring of 2012. To get involved with St. Joseph's agricultural programs like CSA, students can volunteer in the Hoop house on Saturdays and Sundays, and can also help prepare orders for CSA on Thursdays.



Vegetables grown as part of the Community Supported Agriculture (CSA) program are sold back to the community. Photo courtesy of Google Images

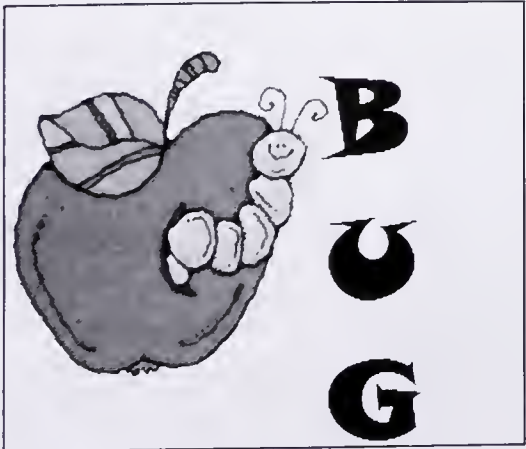
# Pumas Promote Bringing Up Grades

By Kylie Hill  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

The Bringing Up Grades Program (BUG) is a homework help session for local kindergarten through twelfth grade students every Monday and Wednesday from 6:30-8:00 pm in the Library Conference room. The program is run by Puma Educator's Association (PEA), a student run club for education majors and minors associated with the Indiana Student Education Association and the Indiana State Teacher's Association. The program was founded in the early 2000s by two secondary education minors; the goal was to give secondary education students more experience working with students, as well as offer homework help to local middle and high school students. At the time, PEA offered an annual local program to elementary students called Saint Joe's Academy that lasted only one week but took extensive planning. BUG was invented to give the secondary education students a similar project. This past January, PEA opened BUG up to elementary students as well. Schools including Rensselaer, Morocco, North White, Kankakee Valley, South Newton, North Newton, and Tri County are all invited to send students to the program.

Taylor Baima, a sophomore Elementary Education major, is Vice-President of PEA and is the BUG coordinator. When asked what the most rewarding part of BUG is for her she said, "It's really rewarding when the students come back and tell you they got an A on their spelling test or did better on a test than they have ever done before...it's really great knowing that you helped that child learn something a little bit better." At the homework help sessions, the local students bring there homework and the Saint Joseph's volunteers assist them. Oftentimes, the local students will finish early. When that occurs, the volunteers often make up extra practice problems or educational games to play with the students until their parents arrive. In the last few years, BUG had been experiencing a drop in

attendance, but this year "there is a pretty set group that comes along with others who come every once in a while," according to Baima. Students come with a variety of different needs. Baima commented that although the program was mainly set up for education majors and minors, anyone can come and tutor: "it is a great experience working with the students. They really enjoy getting to work with the college students." This experience is particularly good for education minors and majors as it gives them "experience for their future careers. It gives them extra time to use their newly learned teaching strategies and content." If you are interested in helping out with BUG you can either contact Baima at tbw10001@saintjoe.edu or just come to the library on Monday or Wednesday when you can help.

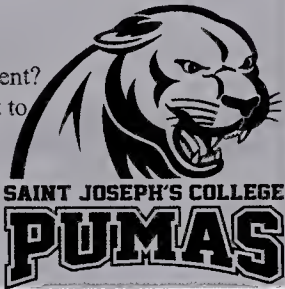


The Bringing Up Grades (BUG) logo created by Taylor Baima last year when PEA revamped the program to include elementary students. Photo Courtesy of Kylie Hill.

## Upcoming Puma Events!

- October 10 - Fall Break
- October 12,13, & 14 - Take Back the Night
- October 14 - Christian Worship Experience
- October 15 - Freshmen Banquet
- October 16 - Sophomore Class Bonfire

Want to get the word out about your event? Email the date and name of your event to Kylie Hill at khw10051@saintjoe.edu or Alyssa Cook at acw10024@saintjoe.edu!



## Meet the Staff: Professor David Dixon

By Alyssa Cook  
Co-Editor-in-Chief

With the exception of those in Core Five, all students have had the opportunity to take a class with Professor David Dixon. A political science professor here at Saint Joseph's College, Professor Dixon teaches classes in his discipline as well as nine out of the ten Core classes. Professor Dixon received his bachelor's degree from Wheaton College in Wheaton, Illinois where he studied political science and philosophy.

Following his time at Wheaton, Dixon received his master's degree in comparative politics from Penn State University in University Park, Pennsylvania. He continued with his education to get a PHD in Comparative Politics from Notre Dame University.

Interested in politics since his teenage years, Professor Dixon previously wanted to be a journalist, a political science professor, or an attorney. His interest in journalism was reaffirmed as a teenager when he met Bernstein from Woodward and Bernstein.

However, his interest in teaching at the college level came from his parents. Both professors, his parents maintained a healthy marriage, leaving him with the impression that professors never get divorced.

Professor Dixon was first attracted to Saint Joseph's College because of its location. He was familiar with the state of Indiana, particularly the South Bend area. His father is emeritus at Taylor University, and his mother worked at Indiana Wesleyan University so he has spent many years here in Indiana. Furthermore, a Catholic institution like Saint Joseph's College was a fitting place to teach because Dixon's undergraduate studies focused on both religion and political science.



Professor Dixon with his family at Thanksgiving Photo Courtesy of Professor Dixon

Aside from the location of Saint Joseph's College, Professor Dixon also enjoys participating in on-campus activities like intermural soccer, basketball, and lawn bowling. He plays in the Saint Joseph's College jazz band as often as he can and arranged a variation of an Erik Satie song for the band last year.

Professor Dixon enjoys teaching a variety of classes here at Saint Joseph's College, particularly his Senior Seminar class. He is also involved with nine of the ten Core classes, the exception being Core Five. His favorites are Core Three and Core Ten. He is so involved in the Core Program because he feels that it provides a wide variety of exposures for students. "All of it is necessary to connect students with all ten of those areas," Dixon said, "to give students the breadth of education that they need."

For students who have not taken his class yet, Professor Dixon suggests to take as many different professors as possible. That way, they expose themselves to several different approaches to teaching and different writing styles.

Outside of the classroom, Professor Dixon is also very dedicated to athletics. In 1999, Dixon ran the Los Angeles marathon in four hours and thirty-four minutes, and at the thirteen-mile mark he ate a twelve-inch Italian BMT at Subway.



# Benefits of Athletics

By Megan Hennessey  
*Opinions Writer*

For many people supporting school sports teams is an important aspect of their college experience. Sporting events are a time when classmates can come together and unite to help support their team. Going to games, dressing in school colors, and hanging out with friends can be a great way to spend your free time. But what about the athletes themselves, what do they get from all of the hard work?

One of the best parts of being a student athlete is being fit. When you are a student athlete you are inevitably going to be in better physical condition. There are mandatory practices and no excuses to skip a workout. Commitment is a big part of being a student athlete. You are expected to be at a certain level of physical fitness and so you will try harder to be in good shape. When you are a student athlete you also become more aware of what you eat. Because of this, your diet will typically be more nutritious.

Being a student athlete also encourages good academic performance. Most sports teams require members to be in good

academic standing in order to play. Going to classes regularly and studying are encouraged by the athletic community. For some students this is the motivation they need in order to keep up their grades. Student athletes must make the best of their time. They become accustomed to good time management skills and self-discipline. Because they are a part of a team they will learn to work cohesively with others and support those that they work with.

Student athletes also receive a huge amount of support. They have support from their coaches and from teammates. Coaches offer students support that they may need outside of the classroom. The bond that teammates have on and off of the field can help many people through tough times. Being a part of a team can also help those who have trouble making friends or are new to college. Knowing that you are a part of a team can help you feel more welcome and at home.

Out of all of the benefits of being a student athlete the greatest of them all are the memories and friends you will make along the way. When you are a student athlete you will make unforgettable memories and friends that you will have through-out a lifetime.

# Cup of Joe

By Christina O’Connell  
*Opinions Writer*

Everyone probably knows about the coolest coffee shop on St. Joe’s campus, Cup O Joe, but I think that it deserves an honorable mention. I started to go to Cup O Joe last year when I was a freshman. My friends and I were really excited for it to open and to work a shift. I love Cup O Joe; it’s a lot of fun and open to everyone on campus looking for some delicious coffee and a place to study. If you need somewhere to relax, get that pesky homework finished, or maybe you’re just bored (there are board games), Cup O Joe will quench you caffiene craving. The drinks are free (tips are greatly appreciated) and you have the option of taking it to go, but why not stick around? Enjoy the comfy couches and wall art, and the best element of this coffee home is the people. I would say I go to Cup O Joe for the people then the hot chocolate and cup of joe. I’ve meet so many people here and gotten to hear different stories. It seems however, that the same loyal



Photo courtesy of Google Images

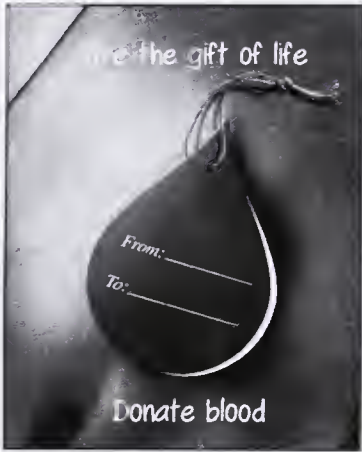
customers come to Cup O Joe every time. I love these people; the ones that continue to bring their warm hearts and smiling faces, laughs, and a new added flare. If you’ve never been to Cup O Joe, the coffee house under the chapel, then I highly recommend checking it out. You’ll especially enjoy it when it’s cold and you’re really craving a hot chocolate. There are a lot of new ideas and awesome activities coming, don’t miss out! My shift is on Wednesdays from ten to midnight (we’re open Sunday through Thursday eight to midnight) and I will be happy to serve you a hot drink or maybe even some Kool-Aid.

# Gay Man’s Blood

By Steven Sewell  
*Opinions Writer*

June 5th, 1981 was the day that AIDS was first reported in the United States. Originally known as GRID, or gay-related immune deficiency, AIDS spread like wildfire through homosexual men in California. Male-to-male sex was and still is linked with an increased risk for encountering HIV. Consequently, the FDA deferred homosexuals from donating blood, a common sense approach for the time. Three decades later, the FDA still defers homosexuals from donating blood, despite technological and social advances. I think that it is time for the FDA to lift its ban on blood donations from gay men. This isn’t the 1980s; the policy is discriminatory and it needs to be struck down in a similar vein to the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA).

The lifetime ban on gay men donating blood is contradictory. There is a maximum one-year ban on men who have been exposed to an HIV-positive woman, or women who have been exposed to an HIV-positive man. Even if neither has HIV, a man who has ever had sex with another man faces a lifetime ban on blood donations. HIV can be detected within



(Above) Photo courtesy of Google Images. An advertisement for donating blood

weeks, so changing the ban to even a year from exposure to an HIV-infected man is an extremely cautious approach.

Other countries have limited their bans on gay men donating blood, and none of these countries have seen an increase in HIV-positive blood donations. In the UK, the NHS has reduced its ban to twelve months. In Canada, gay men must be abstinent for five years. In the United States, a lifetime ban is still upheld.

In the United States, blood donors are desperately needed. Every two seconds somebody needs a transfusion. Blood products and platelets don’t last forever, either; blood typically expires after forty-two days, and platelets (which can not be refrigerated) expire after five days. Dismissing gay men from donating severely limits the amount of blood collected. An important advancement in gay rights will occur when the FDA’s policy is reversed or ruled unconstitutional.

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We, the newspaper staff of *The Observer*, while exercising our First Amendment rights to freedom of speech, promise to adhere to the highest journalistic standards. *The Observer* will not print articles, editorials, or other material that misquote or misrepresent members or organizations within the Saint Joseph’s College community. While constantly striving to meet these goals, we can and will print retractions amending or remedying any problems brought to our attention.

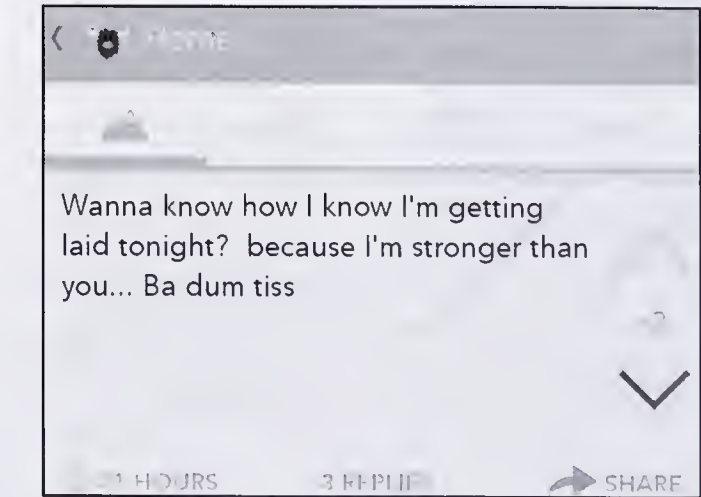
# Down on Yik Yak

By Johna Bottorff  
*Opinions Writer*



(Above) Photo courtesy of Google Images

as well as Student Development and Residence Life. Now they are continuously monitoring all activity because of the terrible and inappropriate things that are being posted. That isn’t really in their job description. They have better things to do than monitor a bunch of ADULTS that don’t know how to act responsibly. Yes, “yakking,” as everyone calls it is fun but not intended to be used as a way to bully. There are people talking about their team mates on this app and the only reason they are posting these things is because it is anonymous. Now that you have this information use it to your advantage. If you see someone bullying, down vote the yak, report the yak or tell the person that posted it that it’s not cool to say things like that. Please Yak responsibly.



(Right) A screenshot of a “Yak” taken a little over a week ago. This was submitted to Yik Yak by an anonymous Saint Joseph’s College student. It demonstrates the inappropriate and sexual nature of these “Yaks”

We’ve all heard of the new hot app that’s becoming popular on college campuses everywhere. It’s called Yik Yak. If you haven’t heard of it, it’s an app where you can post 200 characters anonymously. You can say whatever you want on there; you just can’t use full names, and you are not supposed to bully people.

Now it is fun the first time you read the posts, ‘up vote’ or ‘down vote’ other peoples posts, and make your own Yak. At first it was a bunch of funny comments about how people fell asleep in lecture or corny jokes.

But it has been getting a little ridiculous lately and people have begun to bully others on this app. There have been a lot of sexual comments about students as well as the faculty. There have been many inappropriate posts about the professors at Saint Joseph’s College. In case everyone didn’t know, this is sexual harassment, anonymous or not; comments like these are considered a form of discrimination and could get you an interim suspension.

Yik Yak is causing a lot of problems on the SJC campus; security has gotten involved on several occasions,



# The Success of Snapchat

By: Josh D. Alengo  
Features Writer

The giant media network referred to simply as social media grows more and more ambiguous, with most businesses pushing their own Facebook pages and newscasters reading Twitter content on-air. It can safely be said, at this point, that social media is nearly universal in developed nations.

Humans just love sharing their thoughts, pictures, videos, and any other content they produce; it's in our nature. Millions, likely even billions, of people browse these systems every day to see what and how other people are doing.

With that said, what if I told you I had a brilliant idea for a new form of communication and social media where you could send pictures, videos, and messages you take with your phone to anybody that wants them? You'd tell me that Instagram already exists, but I tell you there's a kicker: anything you send with this new system would be deleted within about ten seconds of viewing it, lost to the ether of techno-trash forever, never to be seen again. You'd tell me I'm out of my mind, wouldn't you?

Evan Spiegel was a twenty-one year old Stanford student when he and his friends, Reggie Brown and Bobbie Murphy, made this idea a reality in September of 2011: the app known as Snapchat.

Contrary to the implications I made above, Snapchat is huge, and exploded in popularity as rapidly as one can imagine. By May, 2012, people sent a collective average of twenty-five pictures a second using the app, and by Thanksgiving of the same year, that number was up to one thousand pictures a second. So what's so special about it and why does it do so well, even though common sense would predict otherwise?

Spiegel has been extensively interviewed and sheds some light on these mysteries. In an interview with *Forbes*, Spiegel states that "People are living with this massive burden of managing a digital version of themselves. It's taken all of the fun out of communicating...The main reason that people use Snapchat is that the content is so much better. It's funny to see your friend when they just woke up in the morning." Spiegel is clearly on to something.

The permanence and nigh-uncontrollable access of current social media means that every time a user posts content, they have to be comfortable with that content being on the internet, representing them, forever. This is the "digital version of themselves" that Spiegel refers to. In actual conversation, the words you say and the expressions and gestures you make are fluid and only as permanent as the memory of the people that observe them.

Snapchat capitalizes on this aspect of real-world communication by emulating it as accurately as possible. People are more comfortable sending a picture of themselves as they wake up in the morning when they know the photo will be gone forever after their friend sees it, rather than exist forever on the internet as a Facebook status or a tweet.

As a matter of fact, humanity would be lucky to have more digital communication innovations as time rolls on. The permanence and accessibility of these digital personas everybody now has are truly causing issues regarding privacy and security. More digital venues like Snapchat may be just what the doctor ordered when it comes to addressing these issues.

# Destiny

By: Joe Cain  
Features Writer



Above: Cover Art for the game *Destiny*. Pictured are Guardians, the character that each player customizes to represent themselves in the game. Photo courtesy of Google Images.

*Destiny* is probably the most highly anticipated game in the last year. Having come from the developers of the acclaimed *Halo* trilogy, it's got a fantastic pedigree behind it.

So, is it any good? Does it live up to its space opera predecessor?

Well, that's kind of a loaded question, seeing as the finished product is decidedly mixed. Let me back up a minute. Here's the set up:

In what amounts to the present day, explorers on Mars discover a strange, orb like entity known as the Traveler. It's discovery catapults humanity into a golden age of technology and space exploration, from three hundred year lifespans,

to the terraforming of mercury, Venus and Mars.

Then, the darkness came, a strange malevolent force with an army of bloodthirsty aliens at its back. The golden age ends in a cataclysmic, apocalyptic battle, and humanities' outposts are reduced to a single city on earth.

However, in its dying, the Traveler resurrects the Guardians (the players), long dead heroes who can harness its Light and fight back against the darkness, then goes dormant, floating ghostly over the city.

Now, that sounds like a fantastic setup, doesn't it? When I first watched the game's introduction, I was positively enthralled, and couldn't wait to discover more about this universe.

The problem is, the above description is pretty much all of the story we're given. That's literally it. The game teases vast amounts of lore and interesting characters, but doesn't actually introduce you to any of it.

If you want to know anything else about the story, you have to leave the game and go to the games website and view the Grimoire cards you collected by killing enemies.

So the narrative is a complete failure, with no closure or answers whatsoever. Players should not be forced to go to an outside source in order to understand why they're shooting at things.

Unlike *Halo*, where the single player story and the multiplayer are rigidly separated, here the entire game shares the online world. It's pretty surreal to see other players running around throughout your playtime, but you get used to it rather quickly.

Despite the last few hundred words I spent trashing the lack of story, *Destiny* is not by any means a bad game. The shooting mechanics are absolutely perfect, mixing the classic *Halo* feel with a new dimension of verticality added by double jumping jet packs each player is outfitted with.

The visuals are absolutely gorgeous, with a spectacular art style behind them. The four planets to explore (more will be added over time) are enormous and great to explore, though they can get repetitive when you've spent hours on end traversing them.

In the end, whether you'll enjoy *Destiny*, comes down to what you want in a game. If you just want good multiplayer, go nuts. You'll love it. The player versus player is incredibly well balanced.

If you need a good story like me....well, you're kind of out of luck.

# NaNoWriMo Month

By: Vivian Myers  
Features Writer

To all my writers out there, does NaNoWriMo sound familiar? If not, it is National Novel Writer Month. There are many different kinds of writing contests and blogs but nothing quite like this. NaNoWriMo challenges it's writers to write every day for a month. To enter your novel into the contest it must be 50,000 words. Do you realize how many words that is a day? That's over 1,700!

On campus, we have a few writers already planning on writing for NaNoWriMo. Savannah Carver, the governor of Seifert, has decided to participate in NaNoWriMo. Though she has no particular word goal, she has thought through her entire story. If you've ever met Savannah you will understand when I say she has an extreme obsession with mermaids. You can see this with the sea-like blues in her hair. Savannah plans on writing her novel about her mythical water world.

Ashley Brinkman, Opinions Editor, has set her goal at the full 50,000 word count. Her plan is

to write 1,700 words during the week. As for weekends she hopes to write more than her weekly plan. This way she won't feel pressed for time as her deadline draws closer.

Ashley was actually the person who first introduced me NaNoWriMo. It surprised me that there was something such as a National Novel Month. I thought it was impossible to write 50,000 words for one story. But then I really thought about it. Writing 1,700 words is really not that difficult. In fact, students do it every day with every writing assignment we are given.

You always hear about cancer awareness months and such. But nothing about a writing month. I was surprised to see a month dedicated to what I would love to spend the rest of my life doing.

NaNoWriMo is a great thing to get yourself into. Even if your major has nothing to do with writing it's still something to consider. This activity will test your ability to focus on one topic for a very long span of time. It will also test your ability to write with a con-

tinuous flow. If you don't think your story line through then you could end up with some problems in the end. I would suggest that anyone who has the slightest interest in NaNoWriMo should try it out. You are not committed to writing the entire 50,000 words. That's only if you want to win. College is a time for trying new things. You might find that you enjoy recreational writing.

I also plan on entering a story to NaNoWriMo. I wrote a short story my senior year for a creative writing class. It was obviously a fantasy story. My story included all the basics: magic, adventure, friendship, and heartache. With NaNoWriMo, I hope to turn my fantasy story into a novel in the thirty day limit. I remember the short story coming together within a few days. It was so easy to write about. I hope that even though this is a higher goal I will experience similar results.



Above: The logo for Snapchat, a popular social media outlet that allows billions of people to send ten second photos or videos as well as "chat" via photos, vidoes, or type. Photo courtesy of Google Images



# House of Cards: A Deadly Game of Politics



Above: Actor Kevin Spacey as Frank Underwood. Image courtesy of Google Images.

By Jimmy Kile  
Features Editor

Are you looking for suspense, violence, action, sex, drugs, lies, murder, deceit, treachery, ambition, love, power, manipulation, and politics? Then Netflix's *House of Cards* is the show for you.

*House of Cards* chronicles the story of Francis J. Underwood (Kevin Spacey) as he works his way to the top in the world of U.S. politics. Starting as the Senate Majority Whip, Underwood is responsible for making sure the other Democrats in Congress vote with the party, but he soon sets his eyes on a bigger prize which isn't fully revealed until the end of season one. In season two, he reveals an even bigger plan than the one in the first season.

Underwood is a ruthless character. To him, people are either a help or a hindrance. He does nothing, interacts with no one, without it serving his own plans. Once another character is of no use to Underwood, it's not surprising to see them disappear or mysteriously get in an accident or kill themselves because Underwood leaves no loose ends.

Claire Underwood (Robin Wright) is Francis's one, true confident and wife. Mrs. Underwood

is just as ambitious and dangerous as her husband is as she manages her own power game as CEO of Clean Water Initiative. Ever loving and supporting, Mrs. Underwood does whatever it takes to help her husband advance his plan for political advancement, something that is shown multiple times throughout the show.

Underwood's most ardent supporter is his Chief of Staff, Doug Stamper. He plays a vital role in Underwood's personal agenda, from doing everything to managing the staff to tidying up loose ends. Stamper is one hundred percent loyal to Underwood and will do anything for him, no matter how distasteful or illegal it is.

Together, these three form the powerhouse that makes its rise in D.C., not without problems though. There's a pestering journalist Underwood has to deal with. His wife has a deeply personal secret that she needs to keep out of the press. Stamper is a fourteen year sober alcoholic who, at times, struggles to remain that way.

*House of Cards* is a dark show, the darkest I've ever seen. It is not something for those with a weak stomach or strong, good morals to watch as both will be put to the test as Underwood does whatever

is necessary to make his way to the top. Murder, lying, and double crossing are common occurrences from episode to episode.

Something that makes this show unique is that Underwood will talk and interact directly with the viewer. I'm not talking like a cut from the action to an interview like in *The Office* or *Parks and Recreation*. Underwood will have an aside with the viewer, telling them something, giving them insight to what he's thinking. He's been known to look at the camera and roll his eyes during a conversation he didn't want to be a part of or insult the person(s) he's speaking with.

The music, done by Jeff Beal, who's also done music for *Monk* and the *Jesse Stone* series, has just the right tug at the viewers' emotions to make them feel the way Underwood wants them to feel. The theme, a slow, rolling, triumphant number, slips in to the viewers' ear and sits them down for the next step in Underwood's plan.

If you're looking for a fresh, new take on political shows, *House of Cards* is the best pick. Underwood's ever unfolding design will have viewers glued to their seats.

# Tove Lo: Queen of the Clouds

By Katie Davisson  
Features Editor

New to the music scene this week is *Queen of the Clouds* by Tove Lo. Some of you may not have heard of this artist, but I bet you have heard of her hit single that appeared on the scene this summer: "Habits (Stay High)" a song whose remix has possibly gotten more attention than the original. It was originally released March of 2013 through SoundCloud and iTunes. Tove Lo received much attention for the song, but due to the confusion between the originally titled "Habits" and "Stay High" the remixed version of the song, it was removed from music sources. The song was then re-released in December later that year as what we now know, "Habits (Stay High)". Since then, the song has peaked the top ten charts in countries all over the world and has even reached slot seven on our own Billboard Hot 100.

Tove Lo, who when not being referred to by her stage name can be called Tove Nilsson. She is a twenty-six year old Swedish singer, songwriter, and musician from Stockholm. She is fairly new to the music world and has hit the ground running. Her songs are raw, real, and honest. They all focus on emotional content that the upcoming generation feeds on. Her lyrics are based on the 'party life' that is beginning to become

glorified. Yes, a lot of her songs focus on love and relationships, which isn't too much of a variety from the music that is being produced now. But, then again, aren't some of the best songs love songs?

Her new album *Queen of the Clouds* was released last Tuesday, September 30th. Some of my favorites from the album include "Timebomb," "Moment," and "Love Ballad." They all have an overall uppity beat, but then again, all of Tove Lo's songs can be played at any party and set the mood.

Where it may seem like the content of her music is shallow and even perhaps underwhelming, Tove's lyrics are much darker than one would think. In her most popular song, "Habits (Stay High)" the hook line is "I gotta stay high all the time / to keep you off my mind." The song talks about a lost love and the way one might deal with it.

This color moves onto her new album as well, with songs like "Timebomb" whose bridge leading up to the chorus says "We're not forever/ you're not the one" and follows with "You and I, we're a timebomb." Then on other songs I've mentioned like "Moments" she uses blunt lyrics to depict her resentment for her privileged childhood.

Many of her lyrics are crude, but honest. She doesn't put a veil



Above: Tove Lo's New Album, *Queen of the Clouds*  
Picture courtesy of Google Images

on the art she creates and in turn gets a successful review from me and many others who are beginning to fall deeply in love with Tove Lo and her raw approach to music.

Her music may not be the most practical or the most cookie-cutter

happy, poppy stuff, but it targets a certain crowd that is looking for some feel-good, emotion evoking, melodies. So, if you're looking for music with quality, real lyrics partnered with upbeat, dub-step-like instrumentals then

I highly recommend looking into Tove Lo and her new album *Queen of the Clouds*.



# Pumas Win at McKendree, Drop to Missouri S&T

By Patrick McElwain  
*Sports Co-Editor*

After an impressive 3-0 start to the season, the Saint Joseph's College football team began its conference play in Lebanon, IL against McKendree University. Following their own homecoming with a big win, the Pumas sought to spoil McKendree's. It wasn't pretty, but the Pumas were able to squeak out a victory, 35-33.

The Bearcats came out flying, with tailback Ryan Herring busting loose for a 65-yard score early. Despite giving up this big play and 33 points, the defense remained steady throughout the night, forcing 8 tackles for a loss and 3 turnovers. Two of those turnovers were interceptions by cornerback Tracy Whitehead, who leads the GLVC in that category. Linebacker Joel Wimbley recovered a fumble at the game's end to seal the deal as time expired.

Even though the defense was solid, the game was more of an offensive affair. Quarterback Tate Borlik had his best game of the season statistically, going 17-26 for 281 yards and 2 touchdowns, one to EJ Woody from 60 yards out and one to sophomore Addison Dellinger, whose score proved to be the eventual winner. In the backfield, Braxton Shelton saw the bulk of the carries, notching 23 touches for 70 yards and 3 scores. Also shouldering the load were running backs Kobi Cook and James Wilson, who had 12 and 7 carries respectively. Receiving the football on the night alongside Woody and Dellinger were Joey Bishoff, Alphonso Hines, and Tremel Glasper, who each pegged at least 2 grabs and double digit yardage. Hines added a crucial two point conversion, which proved to be the difference. The game was closer than the



*Pictured seniors Braxton Shelton, Tate Borlik, and Trent Hall  
Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland*

Pumas had hoped, but the win put them at 4-0 and 1-0 in the conference, the last GLVC team to be so.

Close games weren't far behind the Pumas. Coming home to Rensselaer, the Pumas faced a stingy Missouri S&T team, whose record coming in did not gauge their football team's skill (1-3). Last season, the Pumas went on the road to face the Miners only to come up short 14-13. This year, the only thing that changed was the location. Gavin Voss had his extra point attempt blocked and the Miners held on to preserve the 14-13 victory for the second consecutive year.

Instead of offense being the story, this one was a defensive slugfest. Junior Eric Heinzman

led the way with 7 tackles, a sack, a fumble recovery, and an interception. Helping Heinzman out on the line were fellow ends Pat Vitek and Brian Dillon, who each recorded 3 tackles, 2 of which were for a loss. The SJC linebackers also had a busy day. Making history was Gary Yeoman, whose 15 total tackles moved him into sole possession of the school's all-time tackle-for-loss leader. Wimbley added 12 of his own. The defense held the Miners to 255 yards of total offense.

On the other side of the football, it was a tougher day. The ground game never got going, and Shelton and company were held to only 132 yards as a team. This is their lowest to date.

Borlik finished the day completing 8 of 24 passes and 1 touchdown to Alphonso Hines. Borlik did, however, channel his inner John Elway after scampering 13 yards and diving for the pylon for the score. This is Borlik's first loss as a starter. The Pumas did have a chance to win the game late. With exactly one second to go and the Pumas on the 50 yard line, Borlik launched a pass downfield right into the hands of a leaping EJ Woody. Woody, however, landed on his back after a gain of 43 yards, thus ending the game.

The Pumas are now 4-1 overall and 1-1 in conference play. The team will travel to Jefferson City, Missouri to play the Lincoln Blue Tigers on October 11.

## Upcoming Events

### October 10th

Volleyball at Lewis University  
in Romeoville, IL  
  
Women's and Men's Soccer at  
Truman State University  
in Kirksville, MO  
5:00 & 7:30 p.m.

### October 11th

Volleyball at University of  
Wisconsin-Parkside  
in Kenosha, WI  
  
Men's and Women's Cross  
Country vs. Lewis University  
in Romeoville, IL

Football at Lincoln University  
of Missouri  
in Jefferson City, MO  
2:00 p.m

### October 12th

Women's and Men's Soccer at  
Quincy University  
12:00 & 2:30 p.m.

### October 13th

Men's Golf vs. Midwest  
Regional #2 at Fox Fun Golf  
Club in Eureka, MO

### October 17th

Volleyball vs. GLVC/GLIAC  
Crossover  
  
Men's and Women's Soccer vs.  
Maryville University  
5:00 & 7:00 p.m.

# Men's Soccer Struggles in Conference

By Jessica Cates  
*Sports Co-Editor*

The Saint Joseph's College men's soccer team traveled to Bellarmine University on Friday September 26th to continue their Great Lakes Valley Conference Play. The Knights (4-3-1, 2-2-1 GLVC) took an early lead, scoring four goals in the first 31 minutes of play, and SJC never recovered. In the 52nd minute of play, Bellarmine added another goal, making the final score 5-0. SJC took only four shots on goal during the game, while the Knights had 29 shots for the night. Lewis Jones IV had two saves for the night.

On Sunday September 28th, SJC continued conference play by traveling to McKendree University. The Puma defense was strong for most of the first half, shutting out the Bearcats (2-5-1, 2-4 GLVC) until the 39th minute of play. However,

the Bearcats added another goal shortly after in the 44th minute. In the second half, McKendree distanced themselves with two additional goals to lead them to a 4-0 victory. SJC had seven shots on the night, three by Eric Frasco, one on goal by Nick Cossyleon. Lewis Jones IV had eight saves during the match.

SJC took on the University of Southern Indiana Screaming Eagles on Friday October 3rd. The Pumas fell 3-1 to the Screaming Eagles (4-4-1) in a competitive, but rainy match. USI struck first with a goal in the 31st minute of play with a corner kick from Brian Fischer. SJC's response came in the 42nd minute with a goal from Eric Frasco off of Nick Cossyleon's deflection. USI regained the lead in the 55th minute of play and added an insurance goal in the 86th minute to lead them to victory. The Pumas were outshot 22-8 on the

night. Lewis Jones IV had six saves for the night.

On Sunday October 5th, SJC took on the Prairie Stars of the University of Illinois Springfield. The Pumas (1-8-1) fell 2-0 to the Prairie Stars (3-7), who scored with a late goal in the first half and an early goal in the second half. Notable performances for SJC included Keegan Williams and Jakub Sutowski, who each had two shots in the game. Lewis Jones IV had six saves. The Pumas were outshot 16-9 for the day.

SJC will continue their GLVC play by traveling to Truman State University on Friday October 10th and to Quincy University on Sunday October 12th.

*Pictured Eric Frasco  
Photo Courtesy of  
Father Tim McFarland*





# Volleyball Wins Thriller at Home

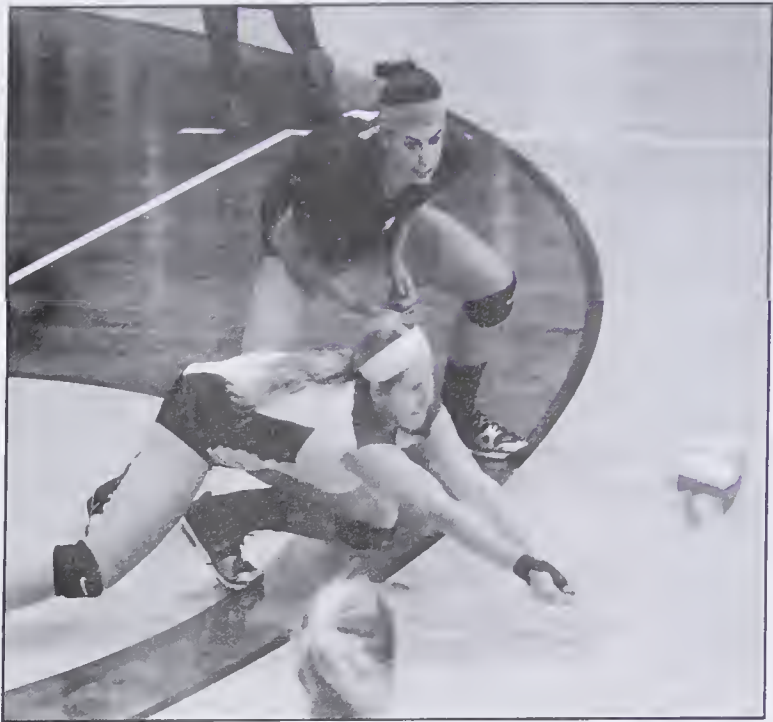
By Jessica Cates  
Sports Co-Editor

The Saint Joseph's College Volleyball team traveled to the University of Indianapolis on Tuesday September 30th to take on the Greyhounds. SJC (3-10, 1-6 GLVC) fell to the Greyhounds (7-5, 6-1 GLVC) in three straight games. The Pumas lost the opening set 25-16, the second 25-10, and the third 25-18. The Greyhounds hit .265 for the night with 16 errors and 43 kills. Notable performances for SJC were Anna Sacco with seven kills and 3.5 blocks on the night, Bridget Krasowski with four kills, and Lauren Robertson with eight assists.

The Pumas returned home to take on the University of Illinois Springfield Prairie Stars on Friday October 3rd. SJC (4-10, 2-6 GLVC) fell behind early in the first match 17-13, but managed to rally back after a time out to win the set 25-23. In the second

set, the Prairie Stars (3-9, 1-7 GLVC) led 20-17 before the Pumas fought back to tie it at 20 and forced a timeout. The Prairie Stars responded well from their time out and took the set 25-23. SJC fell behind 2-1 after losing the third set 25-17. The Pumas started off the fourth set strong, taking a 11-7 lead early, but ended up falling behind 14-12 shortly after. SJC battled back, however and with an ace from Katie Dugan they took the fourth set 25-17. The fifth and final set remained close early. The Pumas fell behind 9-7 at one point, but Anna Sacco had an impressive kill that gave new life to the offense. Gabby Raspopovich added an ace to tie the game and SJC went on to take the set 15-10 with a kill from Lauren Robertson. Robertson had a team high of 13 kills and also added 19 assists and 16 digs. Bridget Krasowski had ten kills and Anna Sacco added nine to the victory. Megan Sturm added 30 assists and nine digs and

Gabby Raspopovich contributed 15 digs. On Saturday October 4th, SJC took on McKendree University. The Pumas (4-11, 2-7 GLVC) fell in three straight competitive sets. SJC was within two points of the Bearcats until late in the first set, but ended up losing 25-21. SJC started out strong in the second set and led for a good percentage of the set, however they dropped the match 25-23 when the Bearcats rallied late. SJC took an early 7-1 lead in the third set, but McKendree fought their way back to tie the set late and then take a 26-24 victory. Notable performances include Anna Sacco, who had seven kills and 2.5 blocks, Megan Sturm, who had 13 assists, and Lauren Robertson, who had four kills, nine assists, and seven digs. SJC will continue GLVC play by traveling to Lewis University to take on the Flyers on Friday October 10th.



Pictured Sammi Hintze digging the ball and Gabby Raspopovich in the background  
Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland

# Women's Soccer Battles in Conference

By: Jessica Cates  
Sports Co-Editor

The Saint Joseph's College women's soccer team traveled to Bellarmine University on Friday September 26th to take on the Knights. Bellarmine (6-2, 4-1 GLVC) took an early lead with a goal in the 16th minute of play, but the Pumas responded quickly with a goal from Erin Darland in the 20th minute. Darland also assisted with the Pumas second goal of the night with an assist to Emily Baird in the 46th minute. The Knights tied the game in the 52nd minute of play and retook the lead in the 72nd minute. They added an insurance goal in the 73rd minute, as well. SJC took 6 shots, three on goal during the game. Melissa Kuhar had five saves.

On Sunday September 28th SJC continued their GLVC schedule by traveling to

McKendree University to battle the Bearcats. The Bearcats (4-5, 3-3 GLVC) scored a goal early in each half, 17th minute and 56th minute, to lead them to a 2-0 victory over the Pumas. Notable performances include Melissa Kuhar, who had eight saves, and Brittany Santoro, who had three shots, one on goal. Friday October 3rd's match against the University of Southern Indiana proved to be a defensive battle. Neither team took many shots. The Pumas attempted only three shots on the night, and the Screaming Eagles (2-4-1) took only three more. The game was scoreless until the 75th minute when Maura Hulme of the USI scored the game-winner. Erin Darland and Brittany Santoro had a shot on goal each and Melissa Kuhar had two saves on the night. SJC battled the University of Illinois Springfield Prairie Stars

on Sunday October 5th. The dramatic and high energy game lasted 110 minutes and ended in a 1-1 tie. The first half of the game was a defensive battle that resulted in no goals. Calleigh Olson broke through with the first goal of the game in the 47th minute of play with an assist from Jenna Arnold. The Puma (1-8-2, 0-6-2) defense remained tough until the 84th minute when UIS (2-6-2, 0-6-2 GLVC) tied the game with a goal from Regina Bolin. Extra time was necessary and both teams had opportunities and fought hard to score, but neither found the back of the net. SJC took 15 shots, five on goal, while the Prairie Stars took 18 shots, nine on goal. Melissa Kuhar had 8 saves for the game. The Pumas continue their conference play by traveling to Truman State University on Friday October 10th.



Pictured Sarah Emerson  
Photo Courtesy of Father Tim McFarland

## Puma Athlete Spotlight: Kate Hickner



Photo courtesy of Saint Joseph's College Athletics Website

By Katelyn Konow  
Sports Staff Writer

Kate Hickner is a junior from Flora, Indiana. She is Elementary Education major who double minors in Spanish and Special Education. She is a Center Midfield/Forward on the Women's Soccer Team at SJC. Do you have a saying or motto that you live your life by? "No regrets... just kidding. 'Champions make choices and choices make champions.' That's just one of my favorites... I have

a bunch." What type of music or song do you listen to before a game? "Before a game I always listen to Fall Out Boy!" What is something specific that sets your sport apart from all the others on campus? "The amount of physical and mental toughness it requires. There is also a lot of tactical knowledge required that most people don't recognize." Who is an athlete you look up to professionally or on campus?

"Two athletes I look up to are Sarah Johnson who graduated last year and Mia Hamm." If you had to describe preseason in one word, what would it be? "Nerves! We all get so nervous for the fitness tests, and are so relieved when they're done." What other clubs/activities are you involved with at SJC? "Habitat for Humanity, Peer Ministry, Alpha Lambda Delta, Gallagher Charitable Society, Tour Guide." Do you have a Halloween costume picked out yet, if so

explain? "I'm going to be a domino for Halloween!" What is your favorite type of candy? "My favorite type of candy is Peanut Butter M&M's"

Know an athlete that deserves the spotlight? Email their name to [jcu8913@saintjoe.edu](mailto:jcu8913@saintjoe.edu)



His Color

By Jenny Weer

I tried to think of a color that comes to mind,  
Whenever his name is said.  
Maybe it's grey, because sadness has loomed over me  
These last eight months.  
Is it white because I don't know where he is or if he can  
hear me?  
Perhaps it's red, because the nights I think of him too much,  
It is the color that spills.  
Maybe his color is yellow,  
Because he loved warmly and cared deeply.  
Or maybe it is black, because depression has never crept  
inside  
As much as it has now.

No, I know exactly what color he is.  
He's the one I wear the most,  
The color of the ocean we swam through.  
The color of the stones on the ring he gave me.  
He's my father's eyes,  
The clear sky,  
His favorite color and mine:  
Blue.



Painting By Joe Habertin

Autumn, For One

By Gloria Leonard

Pumpkin Season is upon us  
Everyone wants to cuddle  
No, not me, though.  
Please go away.

I have Netflix and candy corn  
And a pillow (pet) to hold.  
I don't want your "love,"  
Please leave me alone.

I don't need a hand to hold  
While I dance on crunchy leaves  
Or someone to keep me warm--  
I have sweatshirts and fuzzy socks.

The season doesn't make me lonely,  
I get along just fine by myself  
Just me and Pumpkin Everything  
I've never been good at sharing anyway.

Chameleon

By Chet Turnbo

I thought I was living  
Enjoying myself at  
every turn  
But I guess I couldn't  
realize what I was  
doing  
And now your heart is  
left there to burn

I am a chameleon that  
takes shape  
Whatever you need me  
to be I can be  
Manly? I can show you  
my strength  
Sensitive? You can cry  
with me

Never thought I was  
leading you astray  
Never thought I was  
causing harm  
But after how I felt  
when you walked away  
I realized..... That  
things need to change.

Tunnel Vision

By Katie Davisson

You just told me goodnight and it's 50 minutes into the  
morning.  
I can't help but think about who you're sleeping next to,  
or how your head hits the pillow.  
I can't sleep without at least 3 blankets anymore...  
I just wake up and my nose is so cold  
and I want to roll over, bury it into your chest  
and let your heartbeat warm it,  
but I'm not allowed to.  
So, instead, I have these three layers to protect me  
against the absence of you  
and the choices that you have to make.  
The eyeglass I look through  
is so clear, and yet I can't tell you what you want to hear.  
I can't promise how great this will be,  
or how perfect your hand would fit with mine.  
But what I can tell you, is that I wake up every morning  
and the first thought I have: is how your face looks  
with sleep lines, or if you dreamed something frightening.  
And how all I can see in that eyeglass  
is you.



Painting By Nicole B. Thomsen

Drawing By Joel Arreguin

